(a) whether it is a fact that there is a complaint against ordnance factory in Medak District, Andhra Pradesh that it is discharging hazardous chemicals causing surface, ground water and air pollution;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the effluent and sewage treatment plants of the factory are not in working condition; and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to avoid pollution?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. There was an isolated complaint to this effect made by an employee of the factory to the management.

(b) No, Sir. The effluent and sewage treatment plants of the factory are in working condition.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Defence University

†1683. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to open a defence University in the name of Maharaja Ranjit Singh;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a team of officers from the Ministry of Defence has been sent to the US and China to make a study and submit reports; and

(c) if so, whether the report of the team has been received and if so, by when the University is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Group of Ministers which examined the National Security system, has recommended *inter alia* the setting up of a NDU. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Subrahamanyam has been set up on 23rd July, 2001 to examine the establishment of a National Defence University in India.

(b) A select sub-group of the Committee and officials from the Ministry of Defence undertook visits to national Defence University of USA and National Defence University of China.

(c) The term of the Committee is till 31st December, 2001. Decision will be taken based on the report received.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.